

The Trellis and the Vine - Chapter 5

Group Week of: October 6, 2024



Instructions:

1. Read the assigned chapter.
2. Answer questions in the handout.
3. Discuss with your life group.

Comprehension

- 1) When we emphasize obedience to God's commands like "go and make disciples," we may feel guilty for past disobedience. How can this put us in danger of creating a new kind of legalism? (pg. 61, paragraph 2)
- 2) How does grace combat both shame and legalism and lead us to participate in discipleship for the right reasons? (pg. 62, paragraph 4 – pg. 63, paragraph 3)
- 3) Because of the grace given us in the gospel of Christ, we are called to live in a "manner of life worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Phil 1:27). What does it mean to live in this way? (pg. 64)
- 4) How does gospel partnership define the relationship between pastors and the lay members of a church? (pg. 66, paragraph 3-5)

Evaluate

- 1) Study Romans 12:1-2. What motivation does Paul give for living sacrificially for the Lord?
- 2) Study Colossians 1:18 and 1 Corinthians 12:15-20. If Christ is the head of the body, then He is the one leading the whole group. What is the primary relationship between the remaining parts of the body?
- 3) Do you feel like your leaders at West Side view you as partners? Please answer honestly!
- 4) Do you see yourself as a coworker or partner with your fellow disciples and leaders at West Side?

Apply

- 1) Too often we jump from guilt to works – we try to work off our guilt and shame by doing what we’re “supposed” to do. Instead, we should move from guilt to the cross by repenting of sin and enjoying the grace of God. Then, from that place of love and forgiveness, we can move on to good works with the right motives. As we’ve talked about discipleship for the past few weeks, has guilt or God’s grace been your primary motivator?

- 2) What can you do to help yourself operate more from God’s grace instead of your own guilt?

- 3) What can you do to partner with the body of West Side Church in the work of making disciples?